Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 STR-06 COME-00 LAB-04 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01 L-03 /061 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TEX:WBREW:HM APPROVED BY EB/TEX:JJST.JOHN STR - PMURPHY COMMERCE - EGOTTFRIED LABOR - IKRAMER ARA/ECA - DBOUTON ARA/AND/C - DCOX ARA/ECP - DEDMINSTER

-----012143 140046Z /75

PR 132241Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 010280

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BR, CO

SUBJECT: TEXTILE RESTRAINT AGREEMENTS.

1. FOR BRASILIA: US-BRAZILIAN TEXTILE AGREEMENT DOES NOT END UNTIL MARCH 31, 1979; HOWEVER, BECAUSE US IMPLEMENTED NEW TEXTILE CATEGORY SYSTEM ON JANUARY 1, 1978, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CONSULT WITH BRAZILIANS PRIOR TO BEGINNING OF 1978-1979 AGREEMENT YEAR, TO ESTABLISH RESTRAINT LEVELS IN NEW CATEGORY SYSTEM. BRAZILIANS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSULTATIONS BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 20 IN BRASILIA; WE HAVE AGREED TO THIS TIMING. WE ANTICIPATE CONSULTATIONS COULD TAKE UP TO ONE WEEK. CONSULTATIONS WILL NOT INVOLVE RENEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENT, BUT RATHER AN EFFORT TO RE-ALLOCATE LIMITS FROM OLD CATEGORIES TO NEW CATEGORIES WITH AS LITTLE IMPACT AS POSSIBLE ON BRAZILIAN ACCESS TO US MARKET AND FLEXIBILITY IN SHIPMENTS.

2. FOR BOGOTA: COLOMBIAN BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT DOES NOT EXPIRE UNTIL JUNE 30, 1978; WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE NEGOTIATING NEW AGREEMENT WITH COLOMBIA UNTIL APRIL AT EARLIEST. CHANGE IN CATEGORY SYSTEM WILL NOT AFFECT COLOMBIA UNTIL JULY 1, AND THEN UNDER NEW AGREEMENT. SOME MONTHS AGO WE GAVE COLOMBIAN EMBASSY AN ANALYSIS OF THEIR TRADE FOR YEAR ENDING APRIL 1977 IN NEW CATEGORIES.

AT THAT TIME, EMBASSY OFFICIAL HAD SOME QUESTION ABOUT NEW CATEGORY SYSTEM, WHICH WERE ANSWERED HERE. COLOMBIANS HAVE NOW HAD TIME TO GIVE ANALYSIS MORE STUDY AND MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT NEW CATEGORY SYSTEM. TEAM WHICH WILL BE IN BRASILIA IS PREPARED TO VISIT BOGOTA (AFTER FINISHING IN BRAZIL) TO DISCUSS ANY QUESTIONS COLOMBIANS MAY HAVE, IF COLOMBIANS FEEL BRIEF VISIT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THEM. VISIT WOULD NOT RPT NOT INVOLVE NEGOTIATION OF NEW AGREEMENT. PLEASE CHECK WITH GOC TO DETERMINE IF THEY WISH SUCH INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. WE WILL ALSO DISCUSS QUESTION WITH COLOMBIAN EMBASSY.

3. TEAM WILL PROBABLY CONSIST OF WILLIAM BREW (ASST. CHIEF, TEXTILES DIVISION, STATE, CHAIRMAN OF DEL), EDWARD GOTTFRIED (DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TEXTILES, COMMERCE), JANIE HESTER (OFFICE OF INT'L COMMODITIES, LABOR) AND PETER MURPHY (STR). BRASILIA PLEASE MAKE HOTEL UNCLASSIFIED

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RESERVATIONS (4 SINGLES WITH BATH) FOR ANTICIPATED ARRIVAL IN BRASILIA FEBRUARY 19. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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